

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 8771

日十三月二十一年十一月

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD, 1886.

三月

號三月二號

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

February 2, LIPHOEN, German steamer, 1,055, F. Ahrens, Kolo 27th January, General-SIEMSEN & Co.

February 2, SIGNAL, German steamer, 385, C. A. Hinsch, Pielch 27th January, Holow 29th, and Macao 1st February, General-SIEMSEN & Co.

February 2, YANGTZE, British steamer, 614, Schulte, Chinkiang 29th January, General-SIEMSEN & Co.

February 2, GLUCKSBURG, German str., 616, Berthold, Amoy 30th January, and Swatow 1st February, General-BUN HIN CHAN.

February 2, DON JUAN, Spanish steamer, 654, A. J. Marquez, Amoy 1st February, General-BANDAO & Co.

February 2, LENNOX, British steamer, 1,327, J. Thode, Wimpoel 2nd February, Balash-ORDER.

February 2, SALTZER, French steamer, 320, Th. Leroy, Pakhoi 31st January, General-A. R. MASTY.

February 2, BERNARY, British steamer, 1,190, Edward Le Pontellier, London via Singapor 25th Jan, General-GIBB LIVINGSTON & Co.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HONGKONG MASTERS' OFFICES.

2nd FEBRUARY.

Lady Harwood, British bark, for Tientsin.

Glucksburg, German str., for Singapor.

Stamore, British str., for Saigon.

Venice, British str., for Singapor.

Maria, British str., for Nagasaki.

Albany, British str., for Singapor.

Elise, German ship, for Härve.

Piogola, German str., for Saigon.

Fero, German str., for Cebu.

Kong Beng, British str., for Bangkok.

DEPARTURES.

February 2, EDEN, British bark, for Tientsin.

February 2, PANTHIAN, British str., for Saigon.

February 2, KENNAT, British str., for Singapor.

February 2, VESPASIAN, British steamer, for Singapore.

February 2, THIUMPH, German str., for Hainan.

February 2, YANGTZE, British str., for Whampoa.

February 2, BORNEO, Dutch str., for Selangor.

February 2, GLUCKSBURG, German steamer, for Singapor.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

For Signor, str., from Pakhoi, 2-2 China.

For Yangtze, str., from Chinkiang, 5-5 Chinese.

For Glucksburg, str., from Amoy, & -137 Chinese.

For Yen-joan, str., from Amoy, -2 Chinese.

For Bawdy, str., from London, &c., -40 Chinese.

For Salvo, str., from Pakhoi—Cape Rose, Mr. Dimitri, and 21 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

For Ganges, str., from Hongkong.—For Bombay—Mr. and Mrs. S. Cowanjo, for Venice.—Mr. and Mrs. Flindley-Smith, for London.—Mr. E. R. Wood, from Shanghai.—For Venetian—Rev. Mr. Tolson, Dr. M. J. Johnson, and Miss Morrison.

For Hainan.—For British—Moses J. A. Robinson, A. Wagner, and Baroness zu Massenbach.

REPORTS.

The French steamer Solice reports left Pakhoi on the 31st ult., and had strong N.E. monsoon.

The Spanish steamer Don Juan reports left Amoy on the 1st inst., and had fine weather all the way.

The British steamer Yantze reports left Chinkiang on the 29th ult., and had fair weather with N.W. winds all the way.

The British steamer Henry reports from London via Singapor the 25th ult., and experienced first part fine weather; last part strong N.E. monsoon with high sea up to arrival.

The German steamer Signal reports left Kolo on the 27th ult., Holow on the 29th, and Macao on the 1st inst. Had strong monsoon with heavy sea.

The German steamer Spigola reports left Kolo on the 27th ult., along Japanese coast had moderate breeze and fair weather. Von Die men's sound to Okao N.W. to N. gale, heavy and squally; thence to port side N.E. monsoon.

NAGASAKI SHIPPING.

January—ARRIVALS.

16. China, German str., from Shanghai.

17. China, German str., from Shanghai.

18. India, British str., from Kolo.

17. Stamore, British str., from Kolo.

18. Satsuna Maru, Jay str., from Kolo.

18. Indo, German str., from Shanghai.

20. Indo, King, Amr. ship, from Philadelphia.

21. Moji Maru, Jay str., from Kagoshima.

21. Wisent, German str., from Shanghai.

21. Hainan, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

22. Hainan, German str., from Shanghai.

22. Yokohama Maru, Jay str., from Shanghai.

22. Ningpo, British str., from Shanghai.

22. Hainan, Chinese str., from Kolo.

January—DEPARTURES.

16. Ningpo, British str., for Shanghai.

17. Activa, German str., for Shanghai.

17. Indo, King, Amr. ship, for Shanghai.

18. Indo, King, Amr. ship, for Shanghai.

20. Satsuna Maru, Jay str., for Shanghai.

20. Stamore, British str., for Hongkong.

22. Yokohama Maru, Jay str., for Shanghai.

22. Chi-yuan, Chinese str., for Kolo.

AMOY SHIPPING.

January—ARRIVALS.

23. Douglas, British str., from Foochow.

23. Nansen, British str., from Hongkong.

23. Crocodile, British gunboat, put back.

24. Oscar, German str., from Cheloo.

25. Andante, British str., from Hongkong.

26. Daring, French cruiser, from Light-houses.

25. Kung-pai, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

26. Borneo, Dutch str., from Hongkong.

26. Newchwang, British str., from Swatow.

January—DEPARTURES.

23. Omnia, British str., for Shanghai.

23. Crocodile, British str., for Shanghai.

23. Andante, British str., for Shanghai.

23. Douglas, British str., for Foochow.

23. Firbrand, British str., for Swatow.

24. Louise, German str., for Taiwan.

24. Athol, British str., for Swatow.

INTIMATIONS.

FOR SALE.

A NEW STOCK OF GENTLEMEN'S BOOTS AND SHOES.

KID "BALMORAL" BOOTS.
CLOTH BUTTON BOOTS.
MILITARY BLOCKED BOOTS.
DERBY SHOOTING BOOTS.
CAFE LACE SHOES.
KID LACE SHOES.
CLOTH LACE SHOES.
PATENT LACE SHOES.
CALF SPRING-SIDE SHOES.
KID SPRING-SIDE SHOES.
PATENT DANCING SHOES.
ALSO—

TEENNIS SHOES WITH FOIL SOLES (Specially designed for Cement or Concrete Courts).

TEENNIS SHOES WITH SOFT RUBBER SOLES.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1886. [26]

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL \$2,000,000.

PAID UP \$500,000.

Registered Office, 49, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives money on Deposit, Buys and Sells Bills of Exchange, issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for Collection, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally on terms to be had on application.

CLAIMS ON THE ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION PURCHASED ON ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS.

H. A. HERBERT,

Manager, Hongkong Branch.

Hongkong, 6th July, 1885. [27]

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID UP CAPITAL \$7,500,000.

RESERVE FOR EQUALIZATION OF DIVIDENDS \$500,000.

RESERVE LIQUIDITY OF PROVISIONS \$7,500,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS—

Chairman—Hon. F. D. SASSON.

Deputy Chairman—A. McIVER, Esq.

H. L. Unympy, Esq. [T. H. M. Huntington, Esq.]

M. Gove, Esq. [A. P. McDowell, Esq.]

Hon. W. Kewell

CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong—THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

Shanghai—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON BANKS—LONDON & COMPANY BANK.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annun on the daily balance.

ON Fixed Deposits—

For 3 months 3 per cent. per Annun.

For 6 months 4 per cent. per Annun.

For 12 months 5 per cent. per Annun.

NOTICE.—In Deposit Accounts.

CREDITORS approved on application, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

DRAFFTS granted on London and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 31st December, 1885. [28]

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2.—Summes less than \$1 or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No deposit may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.

3.—Depositors will be paid 4 per cent. per Annun.

4.—Depositors will be paid 5 per cent. per Annun.

5.—Depositors will be paid 6 per cent. per Annun.

6.—Depositors will be paid 7 per cent. per Annun.

7.—Depositors will be paid 8 per cent. per Annun.

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14.—Depositors will be paid 15 per cent. per Annun.

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36.—Depositors will be paid 37 per cent. per Annun.

37.—Depositors will be paid 38 per cent. per Annun.

38.—Depositors will be paid 39 per cent. per Annun.

39.—Depositors will be paid 40 per cent. per Annun.

40.—Depositors will be paid 41 per cent. per Annun.

41.—Depositors will be paid 42 per cent. per Annun.

42.—Depositors will be paid 43 per cent. per Annun.

43.—Depositors will be paid 44 per cent. per Annun.

44.—Depositors will be paid 45 per cent. per Annun.

45.—Depositors will be paid 46 per cent. per Annun.

46.—Depositors will be paid 47 per cent. per Annun.

47.—Depositors will be paid 48 per cent. per Annun.

48.—Depositors will be paid 49 per cent. per Annun.

49.—Depositors will be paid 50 per cent. per Annun.

50.—Depositors will be paid 51 per cent. per Annun.

FOR SALE.

1886. NOW READY.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.
(TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL ISSUE).
ROYAL OCTAVO, pp. 1,132 with plans \$5.00.
SMALLER EDITION, pp. 752, \$3.00.THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
has been thoroughly revised, and brought up
to date, and is now issued in one large book.It contains Descriptive and Statistical
Account of Cities and Districts of
HONGKONG.—VLADIVOSTOK.

London, India, Japan, Nagasaki.

Do. Military Forces, Nagaoka.

Do. Chinese, Hongk. Kobe (Hirogo).

MACAO. Osaka.

CHINA. Tokio.

Macao. Manila.

Hainan. Nigata.

Whampoa. Hakodate.

Canton. The PHILIPPINES—

Swatow. Manila.

Amoy. Cebu.

Takao. Ilolo.

Taiwanfu. Borneo.

Taku. Savanak.

Kiau. Labuan.

Poochow. British North Borneo.

Whampow. COCHIN CHINA—

Ningpo. Saigon.

Shanghai. Cambodia.

Chinkiang. Hué.

Wuhu. Tonkaw.

Kukkiang. Quinhon.

Hankow. Haiphong.

Ihankow. Haiphong.

Changting. Haiphong.

Choofoo. Haiphong.

Taku. Bangkok.

Tientsin. Bangkok.

Port Arthur. Singapore.

Newchwang. Malacca.

Canton. Siam.

Siam. Bangkok.

MELAY STATES—

Johore. Johore.

Fusan. Sungai Ujong.

Yusan. Selangor.

PORT HAMILTON. Perak.

NAVAL SQUADRONS—

British. French.

Shipping Officers of the Coasting Steamers of

S. N. G. China. S. S. Co.

Macao. Macao.

Japan. S. S. Co. H. C. & M. S. B. Co.

Indo-China & N. S. Co. Scottish Oriental S. S. Co.

Douglas S. S. Co. Miscellaneous Coast.

China Mer. S. N. G. Co. Steamers.

TWELVE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND

SIXTY-SIX FOREIGNERS are arranged under one Alphabet in the strictest order, the initials as well as the surnames being alphabetical.

The MAPS and PLANS have been mostly re-engraved in a superior style and brought up to date. They now consist of

FIVE HUNDRED HOUSES IN CHINA.

CODE OF SIGHTING HUMPS AT VICTORIA PEAK.

MAP OF THE FAR EAST.

MAP OF THE HARBOR OF HONGKONG.

MAP OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA.

MAP OF THE CITY OF CANTON.

MAP OF FOREIGN CONCESSIONS, SHANGHAI.

MAP OF YOKOHAMA.

MAP OF MANILA.

MAP OF SAIGON.

MAP OF TOWN AND ENVIRONS OF SINGAPORE.

MAP OF GEORGE TOWN, PENANG.

Among the other contents of the book are—

An Anglo-Chinese Calendar, Mountain of Sun-

rise and Sunset, Mean of Barometer and

Thermometer, Rainfall, Eclipse, Festivals, &c.

A full Chronology of remarkable events since

the time of the Chinese Invasion of Japan, &c.

A description of the Political, Pastoral, &c.,

as observed by Chinese, Malacca, Penang, &c.

The Hongkong Postal Guide for 1886.

Arrivals and Departures of Mails, and Parcel

Post at and from London and Hongkong.

Sums of Commissions and Charges adopted by

the Chambers of Commerce of Hongkong, &

Shanghai, Hongkong Chair, Jinrikisha, and Boat Hire.

This issue contains the New Scale of Hong-

Kong STAMP DUTIES, also tables of

COURT FEES not elsewhere published.

THE APPENDIX consists of

FIVE HUNDRED PAGES

of closely printed matter, the reference is

constantly required by residents, and those

having commercial or political relations with the

Countries embraced within the scope of the

CHRONICLE and DIRECTORY.

The Content of the Appendix are also

enumerated in an Advertisement, but include—

TREATIES WITH CHINA—

Great Britain, Nanking, 1842

United States, 1850

France, 1856. China, 1858

Convention, 1858

Tientsin, 1858

United States, Tientsin, 1858

Additional, 1869

Peking, 1860

Germany, 1861

Peking, 1860

Russia, Japan, Spain, Brazil, and Peru.

TREATIES WITH JAPAN—

Great Britain, Netherlands

United States, Corea

TREATIES WITH COREA

TREATIES WITH SIAM

TREATIES WITH ANNAM

TREATIES WITH CAMBODIA

CHINESE TARIFFS

Chinese. Siamese

Japanese. Korean

LEGAL

Orders in Council for Government of H. B. M.

Subjects in China and Japan, 1865, 1877,

1878, 1881

Rules of H. B. M. Supreme and other Courts

of China, 1865

Tables of Customary Fees

Code of Civil Procedure, Hongkong

Admiralty Rules

Foreign Jurisdiction Act

Regulations for the Consular Courts of United

States in China

Rules of Court of Consuls at Shanghai

Chinese Passages Act

TAXES AND REGULATIONS

China, 1858

Japan, 1858

Customs Subsides, China

Customs and Harbour Regulations for the dif-

ferent ports of China, Philippines, Siam, &c.

Pilotage Regulations

Hongkong

Charter of the Colony

New Rules of Legislative Council

Act, &c., &c.

The Treaties between France and China, 1858,

and France and Siam. Additional Article to

Choco Convention, together with many other

items have not appeared in previous issues.

Orders may be sent to Daily Press Office, where

it is published, or to the following Agents—

MACAO. Mr. F. A. de Cruz.

SWATOW. Messrs. Quelch & Co.

AMOY. Messrs. Gorard & Co.

FORMOSA. Messrs. Gerard & Co.

FOOCHOW. Messrs. Hedges & Co.

NINGPO. Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, S'ghai.

SHANGHAI. Messrs. Hall & Holtz.

CHINCHING. Messrs. Kelly & Walsh.

NORTHERN & J. Messrs. Hall & Holtz.

KYLIN RIVER. Mr. Kelly & Walsh, S'ghai.

CANTON. Messrs. Kelly & Walsh.

MANILA. Messrs. Diaz Puertas & Co.

SAIGON. Mr. Ch. Dupont.

BANGKOK. Messrs. Hedges & Co.

SINGAPORE. Messrs. Sayle & Co.

PEKING. Messrs. Maynard & Co.

COLOMBO. Messrs. A. M. & J. Ferguson.

CALCUTTA. Messrs. Newman & Co.

SYDNEY. Messrs. Gordon & Gotch.

MELBOURNE. Messrs. Norton, Hargrave & Co.

M. F. A. de Cruz.

LONDON. Messrs. Smith & Co.

LONDON. Messrs. Bates, Hardy & Co.

LONDON. Mr. W. Wills, 151 Cannon St.

SAN FRANC. Mr. L. P. Fisher, 21 Merchant's

Exchange.

NEW YORK. Mr. A. Wiss, 21 Park Row.

Daily Press Office, January 1886.

INFORMATION.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

ALL

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR GOODS

are now being sold off at

REDUCED PRICES.

BONBONS AND CRACKERS,

in great Variety.

ORNAMENTAL BOXES.

CHOCOLATE CREAMS.

CRYSTALLISED FRUITS,

AND

PURE CONFECTIONERY,

of all kinds

A. S. WATSON & CO.,

LIMITED.

Hongkong: 21st January, 1886.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed to "The Editor," and those on business to "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until demanded.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour we supply it limited.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 26, 1886.

any building and with proper precautions for safety and the extinction of fire. It must be borne in mind, however, that this provision will be of universal application, and that even should the Emperor favour the colony with a visit not a single triumphal arch could be erected in his honour in any of our streets. It is hardly necessary, we think, that the rule should be of

RATS AND RICE ON BOARD SHIP.

In the Queen's Bench Division on the 31st December, 1885, the action for damages in the case of Pender and Co. v. Hamilton, Fisher, and Co. The action was brought by rice merchants of Mincing-lane, London, against shipowners of Liverpool, to recover about 21,000 as damages for injury to a cargo of rice, and it raised the question whether rats on board ship are "perils of the sea," or coming under the express of the bill of lading. Mr. Colton, C. C. M., Mr. W. H. Barnes, and Mr. Barnes' wife, while Mr. Higham, Q.C. and Mr. Barnes were for the defendants. The case was heard by the learned judge at the Liverpool assizes, before his appointment to one of the Bench Justices of Appeal, and now comes before his lordship for further consideration on questions of law. During a voyage of the defendants' ship from Asia to England, rats on board were found to have damaged the rice, and the rice was therefore rejected. The plaintiffs contended that the damage was due to negligence on the part of the defendants, who replied that the cause came within the perils of the sea excepted by the bill of lading. At the assizes, in answer to a question left to the jury, the judge said, "The jury must not take on board the responsibility not taken on board the cargo, and that the defendants had taken due precautions to keep them down. It was argued by Mr. Cohen, who described the case as one of "barbarity by rats," that the presence of rats on board rendered the ship unserviceable. Lord Justice Jules, who had previously suggested that the case might be described as one of "negligence by rats," could not accept the view that a ship was unserviceable because she might have rats on board. For ships were without rats on board. His Lordship, in giving judgment, came to the conclusion that the damage in question came under the head of sea damage not due to any fault of the defendants, and gave judgment for them accordingly, but stayed execution with a view to an appeal.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

TUESDAY, 2nd February, 1886.

Quotations are—

This year's New Malwa \$530 per picul, alicc of 3 (to 30 catties). Last year's New Malwa \$540 per picul, alicc of 3 (to 1 catty). Old Malwa \$550 per picul, alicc of 4 (to 1 catty).

Pata (New) \$367.37 to 568.75 per chest.

Banaras (New) \$47.37

Banaras (Old) \$20. nom. " "

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON—Telegraphic Transfer—\$3.31

Bank Bills, on demand—\$3.36

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight—\$3.4

Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight—\$3.44

Credits, at 4 months' sight—\$3.44

Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight—\$3.44

ON BANK—Bank Bills, on demand—\$2.20

Credits, at 4 months' sight—\$2.25

ON NEW YORK—Bank Bills, on demand—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 5 months' sight—\$3.14

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Bank Bills, at 93 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 94 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 95 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 96 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 97 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 98 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 99 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 100 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 101 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 102 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 103 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 104 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 105 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 106 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 107 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 108 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 109 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 110 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 111 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 112 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 113 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 114 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 115 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 116 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 117 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 118 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 119 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 120 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 121 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 122 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 123 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 124 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 125 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 126 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 127 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 128 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 129 months' sight—\$3.14

Bank Bills, at 130 months' sight—\$3.14

EXTRACT.

THE DESPOT AND THE WAG.

A despot in the East wished to have a great name as a very magnificent prince, so he gave large presents to everyone of note that came to his court, but at the same time his officers had secret orders to waylay the recipients of his gifts and recover them. In this manner many a man had been rewarded and plundered. Once a wag came to his court and annoyed him by his drolleries. The king gave him a great many presents, including a horse. After taking leave of the king and his courtiers the wag bundled up the presents and put them over his shoulders, and mounting the horse, facing the tail, was going out. The king asked why he did so. "Sir," said the wag, "simply to see if your officers were coming behind, that I may at once hand over the bundle to them and go about my business." The despot was abashed, and stopped giving any more presents, saying, "Giving is but giving in vain, when we give to take again." — *Leisure Hour.*

SHIELDS AND THEIR USES.

Tomar, an in barbarous and uncivilised state, shuns the means of performing some of the most important operations of daily life, being extensively used as a substitute for iron. The savage frequently forms his knife, his hunting spear, and his fishhook of hard shell. Lister relates that the inhabitants of Nicaragua, in South America, fasten a shell, called the *Ostrea virginis*, to a handle of wood, and use it as a spade. In North America the natives use a blue-and-white belt composed of shells, called the "Venice merceante," as a symbol of peace and unity, and there, too, the gorgon of the chieftain's war-dress is composed of the pearl-bearing mussel, called by naturalists *Mytilus marginiferus*. Many African tribes use the *Murex trunculus* as a military horn, and a rare variety of this shell, which has the solen reversed, is held sacred, and used only by the priests. Among the friendly Islanders the Orange Cowry is a symbol of the highest dignity. The Money Cowry (*Cypraea moneta*) forms the current coin of many nations of Africa, and a certain number of these shells strung together are considered by the slave-hunting chief an equivalent for so many black-skinned brothers, whom they sell into hopeless bondage. But no shell has been put to greater use than the "tortoise-shell," which has nothing to do with the tortoise. For the tortoise-shell of commerce is derived from the beautiful horned shells of the hawksbill, or imbricated turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), though from those animals only which weigh at least 160 lbs., as the plates are otherwise too thin. The great tortoise shell marts are now Singapore and Canton; but was constituted in ancient Rome in considerable quantities— even the door-post of the rich being overlaid with it, and the sarcophagi used as a cradle and a bath tub for children, and as a shield for warriors.

QUEER STORY.

MRS. TALLOW AND THE PRIMROSE LEAGUE.

When it was announced that the Hon. Lillian Curzon—the energetic organiser of the Primrose League—was desirous of establishing a Dame's Habitation at Shobton, the Conservative ladies of that little town were thrown into a flutter of delicious excitement. As the Soubion people were very Conservative, and the women even more so than the men, it was not strange that the Hon. Lillian's project was received with enthusiasm.

No doubt the enthusiasm of most of the ladies was due to real political feeling; but it would scarcely be uncharitable to say that with many it was largely the result of a desire to mingle with their betters, so that if the scheme had been proposed by the Vicar's wife instead of by a Peer's daughter, they would have been equally zealous.

Among ladies of the latter class the chief was Mrs. Tallow, the wife of the wealthy butter-merchant of that name. Mrs. Tallow was probably a thorough Tory, but she was unquestionably a complete hussy. She believed in Tory principles it was by faith alone, since she knew nothing about them—a default for which she may the more readily be excused, as since Lord Randolph Churchill came to the front it has become extremely common among people better informed and more discerning than she. But her belief—whatever it may have been—in Toryism was nothing compared with her reverence for lords and ladies. She worshipped these with an unutterable love and devotion; and since her butter-dealing husband began to heap up a fortune, it was the ambition of her life to use it to bring her nearer those gods and goddesses of her idolatry.

This ambition her husband appeared not to share. He discouraged all her efforts in that direction, and for a long time she was compelled to pine in the obscurity of her own class. She was past middle age, and yet the Vicar and his family were the most fashionable of her acquaintances, and she could not conceal from herself that even they scarcely recognised her as an equal. She hoped, when it was roused to life again by her receipt of the circular about the Primrose League. To be sure, it was only a printed circular; but it was directed by the instructions, perhaps, by the hand of the Hon. Lillian Curzon; and, properly used, it might be made the means of establishing an acquaintance with that lady. Mrs. Tallow resolved not to let such a chance slip.

A very short time spent in reflection was enough to decide the course she should take. She would at once write, in reply to the circular, and assure the Hon. Lillian of her enthusiastic support, and place her services at her disposal.

"I'm sure of it, William," said Mrs. Tallow. "I don't see any reason, William," said Mrs. Tallow, trying to hide her ecstasy. "Then, you see," continued Mr. Tallow, "we ain't like most rich traders; we know a crowd of swells, and are sure to do well in society. There's the Vicar and his family, and their son, and Captain Cash, and Miss Curzon, and Captain Cash, M.P.—Lord Balfour, I know, is a knight of the Garter, or something," whispered Mr. Tallow. "Let us go to him at once; we may introduce us."

"Yes, Maris," repeated Mr. Tallow, looking very seriously into his wife's face. "Yes, we'll make the acquaintance of the leaders of our party. I ain't exactly sure who they are just now, but I'm certain we'll meet them, and I'm very anxious to do so, because Maris, let me tell you, I'm a bit ambitious."

"Yes, William," claimed in Mrs. Tallow.

"And if I could only make their acquaintance, and learn a few tips from them, I don't see why I shouldn't stand for Parliament."

"Why, William!" cried Mrs. Tallow with a gasp. "Who would have thought it! And I imagined you cared about nothing but business and money! Well, I am surprised!"

And Mrs. Tallow might well be surprised. The fact was, Mr. Tallow was one of those men who, when they take anything into their heads, to use his own phrase, "go it." When he was money-making he devoted all his thoughts to money-making; now, when he was money-spending, he devoted all his thoughts to money-spending. Whatever he did, he did with ill his might.

It took him and his lady some time to make all the arrangements necessary for a long stay in London, and so it was rather late in the season before they occupied the pretty house of Kensington which they had taken. They duly notified their arrival to their distinguished acquaintances; but, to their disappointment, a month passed without any of them thinking it necessary to call upon them. This was not, the treatment they expected.

Neither of them was, however, disheartened. Mr. Tallow especially kept up his spirits, and as the close of the season approached without their having ever seen any of their old friends, he resolved to call at the Carlton, upon the Vicar and his family.

"Oh, yes, I know that," replied Mrs. Tallow. "We have not had a score of times, and more than once with us."

"Oh, yes, I know that," replied Mrs. Tallow. "But, you know, it was on business. But his lordship was not there. He did not again and again, but still his lordship was not there. It seemed at last as if his lordship never was there. Then he went to the house to see Captain Cash, M.P. The arrangements over a cup of afternoon tea.

What that got abroad in Shobton, the Vicar's wife herself bolted to treat Mrs. Tallow with more than ordinary respect.

It had been resolved to call the Habitation the "Carson," in honour of the Hon. Lillian, but before the inaugural meeting was to take place, Mrs. Tallow received a note from another still greater lady, the wife of Lord Roughshod's oldest son, in which she declared her intention of becoming a member. Mrs. Tallow was overjoyed by the communication from so distinguished a person, and summoned a meeting of the provisional committee to consider how they should recognise the honour the Viscountess had done them by joining their Habitation. The Vicar's wife suggested a measure which was carried unanimously. It was that the Habitation—intended to hold, at an early date, a reception of members of the Primrose League and the Hon. Lillian, that it should be, in fact, "The Curzon and Swaren Habitation." The proposal was accordingly communicated to the two ladies, and in due course it received their cordial approval.

The warrant having been duly received, the inaugural meeting was held. It was a red-letter day in Mrs. Tallow's calendar. The Vicar and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Power, of the Brewery, and several more of the most wealthy and respectable inhabitants of Shobton were of the company. Both the great ladies were most kind and cordial, and the ladies, too, the gorgon of the chieftain's war-dress is composed of the pearl-bearing mussel, called by naturalists *Mytilus marginiferus*. Many African tribes use the *Murex trunculus* as a military horn, and a rare variety of this shell, which has the solen reversed, is held sacred, and used only by the priests. Among the friendly Islanders the Orange Cowry is a symbol of the highest dignity. The Money Cowry (*Cypraea moneta*) forms the current coin of many nations of Africa, and a certain number of these shells strung together are considered by the slave-hunting chief an equivalent for so many black-skinned brothers, whom they sell into hopeless bondage. But no shell has been put to greater use than the "tortoise-shell," which has nothing to do with the tortoise. For the tortoise-shell of commerce is derived from the beautiful horned shells of the hawksbill, or imbricated turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), though from those animals only which weigh at least 160 lbs., as the plates are otherwise too thin. The great tortoise shell marts are now Singapore and Canton; but was constituted in ancient Rome in considerable quantities— even the door-post of the rich being overlaid with it, and the sarcophagi used as a cradle and a bath tub for children, and as a shield for warriors.

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